

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 2 of the application, beginning on line 5 with "The present invention provides," as follows:

The present invention provides a novel salt of O-desmethyl-venlafaxine, O-desmethyl-venlafaxine succinate (hereinafter referred to as "ODV succinate"). The novel salt of the present invention has properties which are particularly suitable for use as a drug, including improved solubility, permeability, and bioavailability. For example, ODV succinate is well absorbed in the gastrointestinal tract. **Furthermore, oral administration of ODV succinate results in a lower incidence of nausea nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache, vaso-vagal malaise, and/or trismus than oral administration of venlafaxine, O-desmethyl-venlafaxine, and salts of O-desmethyl-venlafaxine other than ODV succinate.** Additionally, sustained release oral formulations of ODV succinate result in a lower incidence of nausea nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache, vaso-vagal malaise, and/or trismus than oral administration of venlafaxine, O-desmethyl-venlafaxine and salts of O-desmethyl-venlafaxine (other than sustained release oral formulations of ODV succinate). Pharmaceutical compositions comprising ODV succinate and pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients are also provided. Preferably, the pharmaceutical compositions comprise an amount of ODV succinate effective to treat the desired indication in an animal, such as a human.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 8. Figure 8 contains a typographical error and labels two thermogravimetric analyses as Form I. The Figure legend correctly states that the Figure presents Forms I, II, IV, and the amorphous form. Applicants have corrected the Figure to properly label the forms.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet for Figure 8
 Annotated Sheet showing change made

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REMARKS

The above-identified application was allowed in the Office Action mailed June 2, 2003. The issue fee has not been previously paid and is being submitted concurrently with this paper.

Subsequent to the receipt of the Notice of Allowance, applicant noted that Figure 8 and the paragraph on page 2 both contained inadvertent errors. The requested amendment is submitted to correct these errors.

Applicants also noted an error in paragraph [0006] of the application as published, and have amended this paragraph accordingly as set forth above. The amendment does not add new matter; it merely corrects an error in the specification that did not form the basis for allowance of the claims.

Each of the requested amendments is fully supported by the specification and drawings, will not require an additional search, and does not raise new issues. Therefore, Applicants respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered and the requested changes made.

Additionally, Applicants wish to clarify certain statements made by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowance. Specifically, the Examiner states that "[t]he instantly claimed compound, O-desmethyl venlafaxine succinate, and methods for its use, are suggested by the closest art of record, Husbands et al." Notice of Allowability, attachment, page 4.

While Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's findings that Husbands suggests claimed methods for the use of ODV succinate and that the claimed compound, O-desmethylvenlafaxine succinate, is *prima facie* obvious, Applicants note that the Examiner made no such statement with respect to those claims drawn to

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hydrate, polymorphic and amorphous forms of O-desmethylvenlafaxine succinate.
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper and charge any
additional required fees to our deposit account 01-1425.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 29, 2003

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